

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 169

By Hood

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Mr. Edwin Hale Harris upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Mr. Edwin Hale Harris, who has devoted more than 40 years to the education and instruction of young students and athletes; on March 19, 2005, Mr. Harris will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee high schools and athletics; and

WHEREAS, formerly a Three-Sport Star at Central High School, Mr. Harris began his career teaching and coaching basketball, football, and baseball in 1952 as a member of the faculty at Hillsboro High School, where he was promoted to Assistant Principal in 1958; and

WHEREAS, known for his dedication and character, he was promoted to Principal of Hillsboro High School in 1963, where he served diligently until 1968, when he was selected to serve as Director of Secondary Education for District II; and

WHEREAS, during his thirteen-year tenure in the Metropolitan Board of Education Central Office, he also served meritoriously as the Director of Public Information and Community Relations from 1969 to 1973 and as the Superintendent for District II from 1973 to 1980; and

WHEREAS, losing by a single vote, Mr. Harris was one of two finalists for the position of Director of Metropolitan Nashville Schools during the 1981 search to fill that esteemed position; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harris's position as Head of the Upper School of Franklin Road Academy reflects, not only his integrity and highly respected character, but also his position as a role model to students, teachers, and other administrators of our great State, thereby warranting his being named Headmaster for the school in 1994; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his duties as an administrator, he found time to serve admirably as a TSSAA Basketball All-Star game director for two years, as a TSSAA Regional Basketball tournament director for two years, as a District tournament director for six years, in addition to serving for two years as the President of the National interscholastic League; and

WHEREAS, as an administrator, Mr. Harris has received many awards and accolades, including being named Administrator of the Year by the Metropolitan Nashville Schools and his election to the Region Six Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 1994; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of the Nashville community, Mr. Harris has been twice named District Basketball Coach of the Year, inducted into the Metro Football Coaches Hall of Fame (1993), and into the Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame ; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Harris has been supported by his loving wife, Mary, and his three children, Steve, Connie, and Terri; and

WHEREAS, for the above accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and impressive work ethic, Mr. Edwin Hale Harris has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Edwin Harris, as a man of true character and commitment, exemplifies the type of selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts in moulding the State's youth, guiding them with solid principals and high standards whether on the athletic fields or in the classroom; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family, friends, and colleagues of Mr. Edwin Hale Harris in

congratulating him upon his enshrinement in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, honor, and commend Mr. Harris for his substantial legacy as a teacher, coach, and administrator in the education community of Tennessee, and offer our thanks for the dedication which he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.